FBIS
DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 OCTOBER 1980

Iraq-Iran Conflict

Both Iraq and Iran have claimed successes in the fight for Abadan and Khorramshahr. According to INA, Iraqi forces have gained "complete control" of the road junctions linking Abadan with Ahvaz, Bandar Shahpur and Tehran and have destroyed the six oil pipelines leading from Abadan to Tehran. The agency also reported that Iraqi forces seized Abadan's radio transmitters on 15 October, but Abadan radio was monitored on the evening of 15 October carrying normal wartime programming and on the morning of 16 October relaying Tehran radio. INA also said Iraqi troops continue to "mop up" Iranian "pockets" of resistance in Khorramshahr and have "tightened" control over many areas of the city, including the railway station. It further reported that "fierce battles" took place at the "approaches" to Dezful, noting that Iraqi troops destroyed Soviet T-62 tanks in these engagements and speculating that they may have been supplied to Iran by Syria and Libya.

Tehran radio, however, reported that Iraqi troops were forced to retreat from the Abadan front after an unsuccessful night attack and that the city is being turned into an "armed stronghold" in preparation for possible street fighting. The radio also reported fighting along the roads leading from Abadan to Ahvaz and Mahshahr, but it made no mention of whether these and other arteries have been cut off as the Iraqis claim. Tehran radio has continued to claim that Iraqi troops have been unable to enter Khorramshahr, saying that the fighting there is taking place on the "outskirts" of the city but admitting that the Iraqis are probing toward the city center in an attempt to occupy "sensitive positions."

Communiques issued by the Iranian Joint Staff, carried by Tehran radio, reported that Iranian airborne forces crossed the Iraqi border and destroyed two border posts and an army column, and they claimed that 1,000 Iraqis were killed by these forces in operations in the Ilam region.

The Iraqi General Command communiques, carried by Baghdad radio's Voice of the Masses, report enemy air attacks on civilian targets in Irbil, Baghdad, Al-Fallujah, Choman, Raniyah, Wasit, Haj 'Umran and Al-Musharrah. Tehran radio reported that Iranian planes also bombed the port of Umm Qasr, destroying one missile boat and damaging another. The Iraqi communiques claimed the sinking of two Iranian ships in a naval battle in the Persian Gulf and said that Iraqi airstrikes left the Tabriz oil refinery in flames.

Jerusalem radio has reaffirmed earlier reports that Iraq is receiving military equipment through the Jordanian port of Al-'Aqabah. Citing Israeli sources, it said that war materiel, including tank transporters and ammunition, is continuing to be offloaded at Al-'Aqabah and that the first shipload of equipment left the port for Iraq in trucks a week ago.

INA, citing the magazine AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI, reported that Iranian fighter planes are using Syrian airbases and that an air raid on Mosul was carried out from one of these bases. The magazine also said spare parts for Iranian fighters are arriving in Syria where they are being transferred to Iranian planes.

In an interview with the Paris Arabic-language paper AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI, Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi said there is "absolutely no Kurdish insurgency movement" in northern Iraq taking advantage of the war. He admitted only that a few Kurds armed by the Barzani group in Iran cross into Iraq to take "individual action," but he said the border guards kill some and chase the rest away.

Hammadi also denied that former Iranian Prime Minister Shahpur Bakhtiar had been in Iraq just prior to the invasion of Iran, saying that reports to this effect showed a "vivid imagination." He did say, however, that Iraq has "amicable relations" with and supports the Iranian opposition, including Bakhtiar, and that he hopes it gets stronger both inside and outside Iran. Nevertheless, he said that Iraq is not "cooperating" with the opposition inside Iran, for that would constitute "interference" in the internal affairs of another state. Hammadi explained that Iraq supports the Iranian opposition in the same way it backs the "world liberation movement."

According to Tehran radio, the Iranian representative at the UN Security Council session on the conflict advised the council that "the head of my government has decided personally to present Iran's positions." He then asked the council to hold a separate session to hear Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i's remarks. The council agreed to hear Raja'i on 17 October. In his 11 October press conference, President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr said he had too many important matters at home to take time personally to attend the UN session.

PLO

In a speech at a military graduation ceremony, reported by Voice of Palestine radio, PLO leader Salah Khalaf affirmed that the Palestinians oppose the Gulf war "because we are with" both Iraq and Iran. He went on to explain the Palestinians' even-handed policy, expressing concern for the welfare of both states and peoples, and he called the conflict a "purely American war" that benefits no one but the United States and Israel. He said Palestinians are not like other Arabs who "look on, gloat over the mishap, or incite." They want an end to the war, a cease-fire and negotiations, he added. However, he did not mention any proposals the PLO may have to end the conflict. Nor did he comment on reports that the USSR has asked the PLO to mediate the dispute, but he implicitly ruled out such a role, saying that the Palestinians could not be "mediators"--as true mediation is carried out by those not "involved"--because they are "partners in fate" with the disputants.

Syria

Amman radio reported that Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Talas returned to Damascus from Moscow where he had been holding talks with Soviet leaders on Soviet aid to "further Syria's defensive capability." Monitored Syrian media have yet to report on Talas' activities in Moscow in the aftermath of the signing of the Syria-USSR treaty of friendship and cooperation.

YAR

In decrees issued on 15 October, carried by San'a' radio, President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih announced the formation of a new government. In one decree he established a dual vice presidency, appointing 'Abd al-Karim al-'Arashi and 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani to the posts. The former held the vice presidency when it was a single office and the latter gave up the prime minister's post for the new position. In another decree President Salih appointed 'Abd al-Karim 'Ali al-'Iryani prime minister and charged him with forming a new government. Still another decree listed the 25 ministers of the new government.

Afghanistan

Kabul radio reported that President Babrak Karmal left Kabul for Moscow via Tashkent on 15 October. Included in the president's delegation are Deputy Prime Minister Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost, Defense Minister Mohammad Rafi' and party Politburo member Saleh Mohammad Ziray.

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SALAH KHALAF CALLS FOR END OF IRAQI-IRANIAN WAR

NC151856 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1632 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Speech by Salah Khlaf--Abu Iyad--member of the Fatah Central Committee, at a ceremony marking the graduation of two Palestinian battalions held in Beirut on 15 October--recorded]

[Excerpts] On behalf of my brothers in the Central Committee and in the Revolution Command and on behalf of brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], who would have liked to be with you on this graduation day, I hail you and your instructors for this brave stand. I tell you that the decision for general Palestinian mobilization was taken not merely as a formality or demonstration or, as some have said, for the U.S. elections and other purposes. The mobilization decision is closely linked with what is happening around us. All of you know that since Camp David and the visit of traitor As-Sadat to Jerusalem, we have been living in a situation of crisis after crisis and plot after plot. But the most serious plot we have recently faced, and are facing today, is that which is taking place in Lebanon--the plot of liquidation and annihilation.

Today this revolution looks around and sees a war taking place between brothers, between Iraq and Iran. From the first day of the war we said that we are not mediators; the mediator is one who is not involved. We are partners in fate. Therefore, we spoke out with all sincerity that we are against this war, against this war, against this war, not because we are against Iraq or against Iran but because we are with Iraq and with Iran. That is why we are against this war. We are against this war because we are with the Iraqi Arab people, with the Muslim Iranian people, with this giant revolution and with this great Iraqi Army. Because we are with the Iraqi people and army and with the Iranian revolution we said we are against this war. We will continue to raise our voice against this war because it will destroy everything. It will consume Iraq's human, moral, economic and military resources. It will also consume Iran's military, economic and human resources. For this reason, we stood against this war.

On this day we raise our voice in an appeal to the whole world to understand our call for stopping this war. It is a purely American war. It is a war which will only benefit the United States and, of course, Israel. They are standing as spectators. We are not like other Arabs who look on, gloat over the mishap, or incite. We will not be like this. We cannot accept such a position. We do not rejoice, look on, or incite. We call for an end to this war, for a cease-fire and for negotiations to achieve true unity through which we can, through our cohesion with our national and nationalist brothers in Lebanon, the brothers in Syria and the Steadfast Front, and with Arab solidarity which we understand--the solidarity which does not at all mean setting fires here and there--if we can do that and extend our hands to the friends in this world, we can emerge from this historic crisis in which world Zionism and U.S. imperialism want to place us.

From there, brother strugglers, on behalf of all my brothers, I hail you for this stand and this training. We announce as a revolution that we will continue the revolution until victory. We shall continue the revolution until we can achieve the aspirations of our Arab people everywhere.

Soviet Request

LD140916 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0800 GMT 14 Oct 80

[Text] Kuwait, 14 Oct (KUNA)--A senior Palestinian official today said that the Palestinian resistance is currently attempting to prepare a plan to end the Iraqi-Iranian war. The plan includes the withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from Iranian territories they have occupied and starting negotiations between the two countries with the participation of a third party. The official, Salah Khalaf, who is a member of the Central Committee of the Palestinian fedayeen movement Fatah, accused the United States of making preparations to intervene in the oil-rich Gulf region, using this war or its results as an excuse.

Khalaf said in an interview with AL-WATAN of Kuwait that the Palestinian resistance movement is not neutral in this dispute because it has good relations with both Iran and Iraq and it is not in its interest for either of them to lose. He disclosed that the Soviet Union had asked the PLO to continue its efforts to put an end to the war. He said that the Soviet Union is very displeased by this war because it has a friendship treaty with Baghdad and at the same time has "good" relations with Iran. He said that the Soviet Union "takes the same perplexed attitude [mawqif al-ha'irah] that we have taken toward this war." The chairman of the PLO, Yasir 'Arafat, last month tried to mediate between Baghdad and Tehran after the breakout of the war between the two countries. However, he failed to get them to agree and stop the fighting.

Khalaf said that one of the provisions of the proposed Palestinian plan is for Iraq to declare its intention to return to its borders in return for a declaration from Iran agreeing to negotiate at a third place in the presence of a third party. Iran is insisting on the withdrawal of Iraqi soldiers from its territory which they have occupied before talking about a cease-fire or negotiations, while Iraq stresses that it will not withdraw its forces before Tehran accepts the conditions.

Khalaf said Iraq could postpone its territorial claims for a period of time to be agreed upon by any peaceful means. He explained that the dispute between the two countries is completely unconnected with these demands; "The problem is that for many reasons no good relations exist between the parties. There are no dialogues or discussions." He added that since Iraq had succeeded in finding a formula for coexistence with the shah it had best do so with the Iranian revolution. He warned that the present war between the two countries "could restore America very strongly in Iraq and Iran, adding to its power in the Gulf and Saudi Arabia."

CHATTI OPTIMISTIC ABOUT IRAQI-IRANIAN DIALOGUE

JN151314 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Excerpts] Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, arrived in Amman today on a brief visit to Jordan. On arrival, he said that he will visit both Baghdad and Tehran within the framework of the good offices committee to end the Iraqi-Iranian war and will have contacts with officials in Baghdad and Tehran in an attempt to hold a direct dialogue between the two sides t achieve this goal. He said he will go to Baghdad today to meet with Iraqi officials and then to Tehran within the framework of the aforementioned committee. He added that he is optimistic about this initiative because the Islamic nation is pinning great hopes on the success of these good offices and on a seizing of the opportunity offered by the Islamic initiative to end the differences between the two countries and bolster Islamic solidarity.

SAUDI ARABIA

DEFENSE MINISTER COMMENTS ON AWACS, HAWK MISSILES

LD130844 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0813 GMT 13 Oct 80

[Text] Riyadh, 13 Oct (SPA)--Minister of Defense and Aviation Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has reiterated the kingdom's categorical rejection of all forms of foreign presence in the region. He also affirmed that the present of the AWACS aircraft in the kingdom is dependent on our will because we have the freedom to take a decision on this matter and on the whole situation. In an interview with AL-JAZIRAH, published here today, Prince Sultan said that these aircraft are here to bolster our air force and to bring it up to the required level of strength needed to protect the richest and most sacred heritage.

Speaking of the clamor raised about the presence of the AWACS in the kingdom, Prince Sultan said that those who have raised the clamor are fully aware that we do not object to criticism but we oppose lies and fabrications. The kingdom's policy, he added, is clear to all because we do not work in secrecy and we never have.

The friendship between the Saudi Arabian Kingdom and the United States, he said, is one of equality and respect and not one of alliance and commitment. Prince Sultan added that the visit by the U.S. chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to the kingdom is in accordance with a longstanding invitation that has nothing to do with the current situation in the region and falls within the framework of exchange visits between officials of the two countries.

Referring to the recent U.S. rejection of the kingdom's request for Hawk missiles, Prince Sultan said: We have Hawk missiles now. If we feel that we need to increase the number of missiles we have, then we know when to do so and in what quantities.

UAE

PRESIDENT TERMS TALKS WITH GISCARD 'SUCCESSFUL'

NC151330 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1150 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 15 October (GNA)--UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has affirmed the need to keep the Arab Gulf area free from intervention by the big powers. In a statement to the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY, His Highness Shaykh Zayid said that "the role of the big powers must be to support the efforts to reconcile the warring parties."

He described his talks with the French president, who stopped over in the UAE last night on his way to China, as successful. He said that the talks afforded an opportunity to exchange views on the critical situation between Iraq and Iran. He expressed the hope that the efforts being made by the Islamic states and the Islamic Conference Organization in this regard would be crowned with success.

UAE SAID TO RAISE CRUDE OIL PRICE $2 PER BARREL

WA152204 London REUTER in English 2033 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] London, Oct 15, REUTER--The United Arab Emirates has raised its oil price by two dollars a barrel, Western oil company sources said today.

The increase means Emirates crude now will cost between 32.75 and 33.56 dollars a barrel, according to the grade of oil, the sources said. The sources said they learned of the increase through a telex to western oil companies from Abu Dhabi, the emirates' capital, today.

YAR

DECREES ON APPOINTMENTS, FORMATION OF GOVERNMENT

Appointment of Prime Minister

JN151238 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Oct 80

["Text" of Presidential Decree No 8, dated 15 October]

[Text] The president, after taking cognizance of the permanent constitution; the constitutional declaration issued on 6 February 1978 on the formation of the People's Constituent Assembly and amended by the constitutional declaration issued on 14 April 1978; the constitutional declaration issued on 22 April 1978 on the implementation of the People's Constituent Assembly decree concerning the form of the presidency, its powers and duration; the constitutional declaration issued on 8 May 1979 on the amendment of some former contitutional declarations pertaining to the People's Constituent Assembly and on increasing its powers; and as dictated by the public interest, has decided on the following:

Article 1. Dr 'Abd al-Karim 'Ali al-'Iryani shall be charged with forming a new government.

Article 2. This decree shall enter into force as of the date of its issuance and shall be published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

Issued at the presidential palace in San'a' on 15 October 1980.

[Signed] Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces.

Appointment of Two Vice Presidents

LD151824 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Oct 80 EA

[Presidential Decree No 7 dated 15 October]

[Text] The president of the republic, after taking cognizance of the permanent constitution and the constitutional proclamation of 6 February 1978 on the formation of the People's Constituent Assembly, amended by the constitutional promulgation issued on 17 April 1978 and the constitutional promulgation issued on 22 April 1978 in implementation of the decision of the People's Constituent Assembly defining the form of the presidency of the state and its jurisdictions and period, and the constitutional proclamation issued on 8 May 1979 amending certain provisions of the previous constitutional proclamations connected with the People's Constituent Assembly and the widening of its jursidictions as required by the public interest, has decided the following:

Article 1. Al-Qadi 'Abd al-Karim 'Abdallah al-'Arashi and 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani Salih are appointed vice presidents of the republic.

Article 2. This decision comes into force as of the date of issue and will be published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

Issued at the republican palace, San'a', on 15 October 1980.

[Signed] Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces.

Composition of New Government

LD151920 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Oct 80 EA

[Republican Decree No 121 of 1980 on forming a new government]

[Text] The president of the republic, after taking cognizance of the permanent constitution and the constitutional proclamation issued on 6 February 1978 for forming the People's Constituent Assembly, amended by the constitutional proclamation issued on 17 April 1978 and the constitutional proclamation issued on 22 April 1978, and in accordance with the decision of the People's Constituent Assembly defining the form of the presidency of the state and its jurisdictions and period, and the constitutional proclamation issued on 8 May 1979 amending certain provisions of the previous constitutional proclamations connected with the People's Constituent Assembly and widening its jurisdictions as required by the public interest, decrees the following:

Article 1. The new government is formed as follows:

Deputy prime minister for economic affairs	Dr Hasan Muhammad Makki
Deputy prime minister for domestic affairs	Lt Col Mujahid Yahya Abu Shawarib
Minister of public works	Eng Abdollah Husayn al-Kurshumi
Legal adviser and minister of state	Husayn 'Ali al-Hubayshi
Minister of electricity, water and sewage works	Eng Muhammad Ahmad al-Junayd
Minister of state for cabinet affairs	Lt Col Lutfi Husayn al-Kilabi
Minister of foreign affairs	'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr
Minister of state for People's Constituent Assembly affairs	Ahmad Muhammad ash-Shigni
Minister of Awqaf and guidance	Qadi 'Ali ibn 'Ali as-Samman
Minister of local government	Lt Col Muhammad Hamud Khamis
Minister of social affairs, labor and youth	Ahmad Salih ar-Ru'ayni
Minister of agriculture and fisheries	Dr Ahmad al-Hamdani
Minister of civil service and administrative reform	Isma'il Ahmad al-Wazir
Minister of education	Dr Ahmad 'Abd al-Malik al-Asfahi
Minister of communications, land, air and maritime transport	Eng Ahmad Muhammad al-Ansi
Minister of economy and industry	Muhammad Hizam ash-Shamhati
Minister of justice	Lt Col Muhsin Muhammad al-Ulufi
Minister of information and culture	Hasan Ahmad al-Lawzi
Minister of municipalities and housing	Ahmad Muhammad Luqman
Minister of finance	Dr Muhammad Yahya (al-Aradi)
Minister of state and chairman of the petroleum and mineral resources corporation	'Ali 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Bahr
Minister of supply and trade	Dr Husayn 'Abd al-Khaliq (al-Jalal)
Minister of the interior	Lt Col 'Ali Muhammad (Usruf)
Minister of development and head of the central organ of planning	Fu'ad Qa'id Muhammad
Minister of health	Dr Muhammad Ahmad al-Kabab

Article 2. This decision shall be implemented from the date of issue and shall be published in the OFFICIAL GAZETTE.

Issued at the republican palace in San'a' on 15 October 1980.

[Signed] Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces; Dr 'Abd al-Karim 'Ali al-'Iryani, the prime minister.

The SABA news agency has learned that the new government will be sworn in tomorrow morning before the president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces at the republican palace.

'ALI VIEWS U.S. COMMITMENTS, ELECTIONS

NC151722 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0810 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Excerpts] Cairo, 15 Oct (MENA)--Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has affirmed that Egypt was seeking a balance in the area in order to prevent a Soviet takeover.

In an interview granted to the Washington correspondent of the weekly magazine AKHIR SA'AH before the resumption of the autonomy negotiations, 'Ali outlined that the peace process was continuing before and after the U.S. elections. 'Ali noted in this respect that although we cannot foretell the results of the U.S. elections, the U.S. being bound by an agreement or a treaty does not depend on the person of the President because every President respects his country's foreign policy commitments. It is a question of interests, not a personal question.

Regarding the relations between Cairo and Washington, 'Ali pointed out that Egyptian-U.S. relations were not in danger because of the deadlock in the peace negotiations with Israel since the U.S. role as a neutral partner in the negotiations proved the strength of these relations.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali stressed that there were real dangers in the Middle East constituting a threat not only to the security and stability of the states in the area but to U.S. interests as well. He added: With the military strategy and goals agreed with the United States, there would be no logic preventing the establishment of military cooperation to confront the common threats to the states in the area or to the U.S. interests. However, logic calls for an establishment of cooperation, be this in the form of supplying Egypt with sophisticated arms to maintain its strength and ability of movement so as to preserve its leading role in the area, or in the form of giving the United States certain facilities--not bases--in our country within the framework of joint training, so that it can assist the Arab countries in case of any Soviet threat.

As to the possibility of finding an alternative solution to the Middle East problem instead of the one pursued by Egypt, Kamal Hasan 'Ali pointed out that none of the rejectionist states has come up with any alternative method for achieving the Palestinian aspirations. Should there be an alternative way or a practical solution better than what Egypt is doing, then Egypt would go for such a solution, he said, because all Egypt wants is a just settlement to the Palestine problem.

He reaffirmed that the aim of the Camp David agreement was not to determine the fate of the Palestinians but to help the Palestinians determine their own fate.

There was no real conflict between Egypt and the Arab states--the conflict being limited to agreeing on the way of tackling the Palestine question in order to promote pan-Arab interests.

Deputy Prime Minister 'Ali said that the American Jewish existence in the United States and its support of Israel was an undeniable fact. This had become evident during the electoral campaign in the competition for the Jewish vote. Nevertheless, there is undoubtedly a supreme strategy for the United States aimed at safeguarding U.S. interests abroad. I do not think that the United States would sacrifice its prime interests for the sake of satisfying a group of citizens--American Jews or non-Jews.

'Ali added: On this basis, such a strategy must be weighed regardless of the electoral pressures and upmanships between the U.S. parties to win votes. The United States also has strategic and economic interests with most of the Arab countries. Its interests are also linked with the balance between the great powers in the area. On the basis of this, it is in the U.S. interest to solve the question in a way satisfactory to all sides sooner or later.

FORMER LIBYAN AMBASSADOR JOINS OPPOSITION

NC150850 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0650 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] Cairo, 15 Oct (MENA)--Muhammad Yusuf al-Maqrif, former Libyan ambassador to India and at present ambassador at the Libyan foreign ministry, has issued a statement saying that Al-Qadhdhafi's regime has lost all legal and rational values.

In his statement, which AL-AHRAM published today, he says: Innocent Libyan citizens were hanged and executed by Al-Qadhdhafi's firing squads, sanctities were violated, energies were wasted and Al-Qadhdhafi had the audacity to attack the teachings of Islam, the Koran and the prophet. Dictatorship, tyranny, political, social and economic corruption prevail in the country under Al-Qadhdhafi's regime, the downfall of which is inevitable and imminent.

I express the stand and feelings of the overwhelming majority of the Libyan people and declare that I join the ranks of the Libyan opposition in its efforts to overthrow Al-Qadhdhafi's regime.

SAUDI ARABIA IMPOUNDS EGYPTIAN PLANE 14 OCT

NC150728 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0648 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] Cairo, 15 Oct (MENA)--The authorities at Jidda Airport in Saudi Arabia have impounded an Egyptian plane which left Cairo Airport at 0800 yesterday carrying 310 passengers aboard, including 61 pilgrims who are members of the pilgrimage mission of the Customs Department.

AL-AHRAM today reports that the Saudi authorities refused to allow the passengers to leave the plane unless Egypt Air pays a fine of 200,000 riyas because the plane arrived several hours after the deadline set by the Saudi authorities for the arrival of the last plane carrying pilgrims. The paper says the plane was still in Jidda Airport pending payment of the fine.

OAU SECRETARY GENERAL LEAVES CAIRO FOR PARIS

NC141600 Cairo MENA in English 1455 GMT 14 Oct 80

[Text] Cairo, 14 Oct (MENA)--Secretary General of the Organisation of African Unity Edem Kodjo left here today for Paris, winding up his 5-day visit to Egypt.

During the visit Kodjo met with Deputy Premier Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din. They discussed African problems and the necessity of solving them within the organisation's framework.

Kodjo was seen off at the airport by ambassadors at the Foreign Ministry Mahmud Samir and Ahmad 'Uthman.

FOREIGN MINISTER HAMMADI INTERVIEWED ON PROGRESS OF WAR

LD151435 Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI in Arabic 13-19 Oct 80 pp 7-8

[Interview given to Ra'idah Dirgham by Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi in New York--date not given]

[Text] New York--[Question] It is being said that Iraq had expected the war to be a short one and to end in an Iraqi victory, but it has dragged on for longer than expected, though not with the same intensity. Is this true, and where will the war end?

[Answer] We never estimated that the war would definitely be a short one. We are aware that war can be short or long.

[Question] What are your expectations now? A longer but less intense war?

[Answer] Our forces will not take long to position themselves in the area they have entered. The Iranian Government and officials will come to realize that talk about continuing the war and resistance will have no practical results. Consequently, the war will stop under the pressure of practical considerations and the real situation.

[Question] Aside from the practical considerations, there are military considerations. There have been hints in the past weeks that the United States might supply Iran with spare parts through a third party. It has even been said that this is happening now. Are you aware of this, and what is your response?

[Answer] Now that the military situation has reached its present state, I do not believe that spare parts would rescue Iran and change the situation completely. However, we are following this matter very carefully. If we ascertain that the United States is sending any kind of military aid to Iran through a third party, that would mean that the United States has become a party [to the conflict] and we would then have to adopt a different stand. If a big power intervenes in favor of one party against another party, then we would have to adopt a different stand. However, the Americans have so far been saying that they are neutral. But if we receive information to the contrary, then we will assume a different stand.

[Question] Do you believe that the United States will give Iran spare parts through a third party in order to secure the release of the hostages?

[Answer] Everything is possible. Iran is now virtually isolated internationally. It does not have many friends. The states which can provide Iran with spare parts are limited in number. The possibility is not ruled out 100 percent, but it is not a big possibility.

[Question] It has been said that Iraq cannot face a long-term war and that after achieving victories in the first 10 days it began to show signs of exhaustion. Do you agree with this analysis? And is Iraq capable of waging a long war?

[Answer] This analysis is based on the observation that our forces are not advancing any farther. It is true that our forces are not advancing farther now. Basically, we never intended to occupy all of Iran. We had a limited objective which we have now achieved. The Armed Forces General Command has officially announced that our objective has been achieved as far as the area under our control is concerned. This is why we are not advancing any farther. The Western analysts used this phenomenon as a basis for their analysis, as if they expect us to continue advancing and to occupy the whole of Iran. This is not the case.

[Question] Iraq has always maintained that its war with Iran is designed to regain its rights in the Shatt al-'Arab, but Iraqi forces are now present on Iranian territory to which Iraq has no claim. So, what is to be the fate of this territory?

[Answer] Before our forces entered Iranian territory and occupied the Iraqi territory which Iran held and refused to relinquish, we abrogated the 1975 Algiers agreement. When our forces occupied this territory they stopped there on the border. We then told the Iranians that Iraq must assume sovereignty over all this territory and over the Shatt al-'Arab, that Iran must come to an understanding to accept the new situation and to reach an agreement. Iran did not respond to this call but continued the war and expanded it on the border. It closed its airspace. It also closed the Shatt al-'Arab with its artillery and struck at Iraqi ports and the ships bound for them. It is known that the Shatt al-'Arab is our only outlet. When Iran closes our only sea outlet and expands the scope of the war on the border through mobilization and concentration, we can either wait for and receive the Iranian attack or enter Iran in order to make it accept our demand. Our demands are legitimate and reasonable and involve no aggression against anyone.

[Question] Since you have mentioned the demands, Iraq does not say that Arabistan is an Arab area but it advocates Arab sovereignty over it. What does this mean?

[Answer] There is a movement in Arabistan just like that in the north--in Kordestan--demanding self-government. We have granted self-rule to the Kurds in northern Iraq. Therefore it would be unreasonable for us to say that we are against the demands of the people of Arabistan or opposed to the Kurdish demands for self-rule in northern Iran. We support self-rule for Arabistan and all the Iranian peoples. It is a well-known historical fact that the area of Arabistan was once part of Iraq and that the Ottoman Empire ceded it to Iran toward the end of the 19th Century.

[Question] If in the future Iraq were to withdraw and to leave Arabistan in a vacuum, that could leave the latter open to Iranian revenge, especially inasmuch as Iran does not favor granting self-rule to Arabistan. Have you thought of that, and what plans have you made for this contingency?

[Answer] This is to be expected because the Iranian Government's stand has always been a fanatic and racist one, refusing absolutely to listen to the demands of the Iranian peoples. Therefore this is to be expected, but world public opinion, the international organizations, the United Nations and the nonaligned movement believe that no fanatic and extremist government should be left in Tehran to kill the Iranian peoples and terrorize them just because they demand self-rule.

[Question] But what plans have you made for the post-Iraqi-withdrawal phase--the Iranian vengeance, the disappointment of Arabistan and a wave of refugees entering Iraq?

[Answer] It is premature to pose these questions now. These are the aftermath of an issue and they depend on certain matters between the Iranian Government and these peoples. It is difficult to delve into these matters now because agreement on them has to be reached through negotiation.

[Question] Do you feel responsible toward the people of Arabistan?

[Answer] Certainly. They are Arabs and are affiliated with us. There are national bonds between us and them. Until a short time ago they were part of Iraq. Of course, we support them in their demands.

[Question] Will you leave them open to vengeance or will you support them?

[Answer] This is something I cannot talk about now because it is premature and depends on the circumstances. It might or might not happen.

[Question] Regarding the three islands, all the Arab states say that they are opposed to Iranian control over them. Will the islands be part of the negotiations?

[Answer] If the UAE raises this issue on any level, Iraq will side with them by all means and with all its capabilties.

[Question] So Iraq does not intend to raise this issue?

[Answer] Constitutionally and as far as international law is concerned, these islands belong to the Emirates. Nationally, we regard the issue of the islands as one of the issues pending between the Arab states and Iran, which must relinquish them and withdraw from them. However, it is up to the UAE to raise this issue.

[Question] Iran says that Iraq must withdraw to the former borders before negotiations can start.

[Answer] This is absolutely unthinkable. Were Iran ready to reach an understanding, it would have done so. Did we not ask it to come to such an understanding? A great many notes have been sent to the Iranian Government in over a year now in which we have drawn its attention to its violations, its interference in our internal affairs and its retention of our territory. We also called upon it both in writing and orally to negotiate--in writing through our notes and orally when President Saddam Husayn talked twice in Havana with the then Iranian foreign minister Mr Yazdi. I also talked to him here, in the United Nations. We asked him to arrange for a meeting at the highest levels to resolve the problems between the two countries. Nothing happened. Had Iran been prepared to come to an understanding with us, it would have done so earlier. Even when our forces stopped on the border we asked the Iranians to come to the negotiating table, but they did not respond. Now that the war has taken place, Iran is saying that it is prepared to come to an understanding only after a withdrawal. This is rejected.

[Question] If Iraq continues to insist on its stand and Iran does likewise, what will be the chances of stopping the war and starting negotiations?

[Answer] In time, military defeat, the destruction of the economy, international isolation and financial straits will force the Iranian rulers to be realistic. Why hurry? The issue is a big one and requires time.

[Question] Once again I return to the spare parts. The need of either party for these would entail foreign intervention. Do you not think so?

[Answer] There is no need for any intervention unless we suppose that the war is going to last 5 years. Even World War II did not last 5 years. I am astonished by this media scare. When we entered the war we calculated everything; we calculated what we have and what they have as well as how long we can fight and how long they can fight. In any case, we have not reached the danger point of foreign intervention, we will not get near it and there is no need to jump to conclusions.

[Question] Can you specify for us the time at which Iraq will feel the need for spare parts?

[Answer] We are not in need of any military equipment.

[Question] Did you take into consideration the fact that the United States might help Iran?

[Answer] We have calculated everything and we entered the war on the basis of the worst-case eventualities.

[Question] Does Iraq realize the sensitivity of its situation, and how far is it indirectly affected by what the United States does?

[Answer] Spare parts do not change the course of wars. War is an army, arms and materiel, domestic morale, government, a united leadership and a plan of action, as well as farsightedness, diplomacy, politics, international relations and internal cohesion. Therefore spare parts absolutely do not change the course of war. It is not possible during wartime for a country to use arms for which it was not trained previously. All it can do is use the arms it is familiar with. We know how many weapons Iran has. As for the introduction of new weapons, it is impractical. Of course, any assistance, however small and however ineffective it may be in influencing the course of the battle, will be noted, and we will take our stance on it.

[Question] Do you expect the crisis to end before or later than the end of this year?

[Answer] I do not think that they can resist for long. The situation will bring pressure to bear on them and force them to be realistic.

[Question] But Iraq, too, has begun to suffer from the economic effects of the war despite the oil aid it is receiving.

[Answer] What oil aid?

[Question] From Kuwait, for example.

[Answer] Never. Iraq has not asked for any aid so how can there be any aid? Is Kuwait sending oil to Iraq? No, we have no shortage of any kind of oil product. Iran's production and export has stopped entirely. Iraq's production has declined but it has not stopped completely. Most of the refineries are still working and our ability to export from the north is unaffected. We have not received a drop of aid from any party; we have not asked for aid and we have not received any.

[Question] Regarding oil, Saudi Arabia has increased its production. Does Iraq have any objection to that?

[Answer] In view of our sense of international responsibility and the belief that there should be no disruption of world oil supplies, we are satisfied with the Saudi step. I have already said that Iraq will do all it can in consultation with the Arab countries to compensate for the shortfall in world oil supplies.

[Question] There are people who see in the dispatch of U.S. AWACS aircraft to Saudi Arabia indirect U.S. intervention in the war. Do you agree with this?

[Answer] They have explained this matter to us and told us that, first of all, these are not warplanes but [airborne] radar to gather information on what is happening in the skies. They said that the planes are unarmed and that this was done at Saudi Arabia's request. They also said that they had explained the matter to the Soviet Union and Iran so that the Soviet Union would not misinterpret this step as intervention. And so was Iran [informed]. In any case, what matters to us is that no great power should take any action that may entail a counteraction by the opposing major power and thus initiate the chain of intervention in the area. What matters to us is that the major powers remain aloof from the conflict.

[Question] When you met with U.S. Secretary Muskie did he express to you the U.S. fear that, in a moment of despair, Iran might strike at the oil resources and close the Strait of Hormuz, and did you discuss this subject?

[Answer] Secretary Muskie expressed concern in general--that the continuation of the war might lead to its spreading and affecting oil supplies. It was the same general concern expressed in the Western press, but it appears that this concern has diminished since Iran retreated and said that it will not close the Strait of Hormuz.

[Question] There is talk of the possibility of Iraqi Kurds exploiting this opportunity to demand more rights.

[Answer] There is absolutely no Kurdish movement in the north. Kurdish insurgency is not something that exists and is contained and that can be released or recontained at any given time. There is absolutely no Kurdish insurgency movement in the north. There are Kurdish individuals who are active. This was the case before and was one of the reasons for our tense relations with Iran. They are individuals who are armed by Barzani in northern Iran and enter northern Iraq. The border guards chase them; some of them are killed, others escape. This is an individual action. But there is currently no Kurdish movement in Iraq exploiting or not exploiting the situation. The Kurdish movement existed when the shah with all his forces and the United States with all its weight were behind the Kurds. When the shah withdrew his support for the Kurdish mutiny it collapsed overnight.

[Question] Let us talk about the Iranian opposition abroad. It was said that Shahpur Bakhtiar was in Iraq a week before the war broke out. Is this true?

[Answer] I have absolutely no knowledge of this. All I know is that he once said that he had been in Iraq but, in fact, I did not see him in Iraq and I did not hear that he was there. If he had come we would have heard and known about it. But the media have a vivid imagination.

[Question] A large number of banished Iranian military personnel are in Iraq.

[Answer] This is not true. Who said this? There are no Iranian military personnel, banished or otherwise, in Iraq. Why should they come to Iraq? There is no reason for them to go there. The locations of the banished Iranian military personnel are known. They meet the press and talk to it.

[Question] With regard to the internal situation in Iran, do you think the regime will stand fast?

[Answer] Is there a more divided, more tense and more deteriorating situation than that in Iran? There is unemployment, disruption of the state machinery, high prices, chaos, insecurity, emigration of technicians, arbitrary dismissal, terror, division in the leadership, domination by the clergy and attempts to return Iran to the Middle Ages. The situation in Iran is very bad. Whether or not this situation may lead to a change of regime, it is difficult to say. But the objective factors for changing the regime do exist, and this is up to the Iranian people themselves.

[Question] Is Iraq in contact with any opposition groups inside or outside Iran?

[Answer] We have amicable relations with and support the Iranian opposition now that the situation between us and the Iranian regime has reached its present state. We wish the opposition forces to become stronger both inside and outside Iran. We are not cooperating with any activities inside Iran because our policy is not to interfere in the internal affairs of others. But we support the Iranian opposition just as we support the world liberation movement.

[Question] Do you see any possibility for Bakhtiar to return to Iran, and does Iraq support him?

[Answer] There is no hostility between us and Bakhtiar. In many of his views and ideas he seems reasonable, but I cannot estimate whether or not he will return. But he is of the Iranian nationalist opposition.

ARMED FORCES GENERAL COMMAND COMMUNIQUES 14-16 OCT

Communique No 79

JN141713 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1653 GMT 14 Oct 80

[Communique No 79 issued by Iraqi Armed Forces General Command, 14 October 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

This afternoon, our armed forces continued to strike at the enemy in its operations sectors and to destroy all its reinforcements wherever they might be within its territories, inflicting heavy losses in equipment and lives:

I. The ground forces:

A. Enemy known losses:

1. In personnel: 16 killed.
2. In equipment: One tank and one personnel carrier were destroyed.
3. The oil pipelines extending between Abadan and Bandar Shahpur [Bandar-e Khomeyni] were destroyed.
4. Two vehicles loaded with Khomeyni guards were destroyed.
5. The enemy pockets in (?Basatin) region in Ahvaz sector were purged and the enemy forces there were destroyed.
6. Our antiaircraft defenses in the southern sector of the battlefield shot down five enemy fighter planes.

B. Our losses:

1. In personnel: 2 martyred and 12 wounded.
2. In equipment: Two vehicles burned.

II. The air forces: Our planes raided enemy military targets, inflicting the following heavy losses:

A. Four helicopters on the Abadan-(Shaykh Budayr) axis in Ahvaz sector were destroyed.

B. Artillery emplacements and a column of enemy vehicles and armor on the same axis were hit.

Our planes returned home safely except one, which went down in enemy territory. We hold the Iranian authorities responsible for the safety of its pilot.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 14 October 1980.

Communique No 80

JN151056 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1027 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Communique No 80 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command, 15 October 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our valiant armed forces continue to deal punishing blows to the enemy in the operations sectors and deep in Iranian territory. Last night and this morning, our armed forces destroyed enemy reinforcements and foiled their desperate attempts to stand fast against our units, inflicting heavy losses in lives and equipment on them:

I. The ground forces:

A. Enemy losses:

1. In personnel: 52 killed and a large number captured.
2. In equipment: three self-propelled 175-mm guns, a number of medium weapons, two personnel carriers, four detachments of antitank weapons, one building with the contingent which was in it and one vehicle carrying enemy soldiers were destroyed.
3. Two tanks, two vehicles carrying military hardware and three 106-mm guns were seized. A large quantity of military equipment and missiles was also seized.
4. One fighter plane was shot down in the southern sector of the theater of operations.

B. Our losses:

1. In personnel: 9 martyred, 36 wounded.
2. In equipment: Two vehicles burned.

II. The air forces:

A. This morning, enemy aircraft raided civilian and economic targets. They were repulsed by our ground resistance, forcing them to flee as follows:

1. At 0710 enemy aircraft raided the Azadi and Choman areas in Irbil Governorate, aiming at residential areas.
2. At 0725 enemy planes raided Baghdad and Al-Fallujah, aiming at civilian areas.
3. At 0732 enemy aircraft raided Choman and Raniyah, aiming at civilian areas.
4. At 0915 enemy aircraft raided Wasit and Haj 'Umran, aiming at residential areas.

B. Our losses in the enemy raids:

1. In personnel: 7 wounded in Baghdad; 7 martyred and 18 wounded in Al-Fallujah; 7 martyred children in Raniyah. All are civilians.
2. Several houses in Baghdad were damaged; several houses in Al-Fallujah were destroyed.

C. Two enemy planes downed in Baghdad.

D. This morning, our planes raided enemy military and economic targets, inflicting heavy losses:

1. The Tabriz refinery was directly hit and set on fire.
2. An enemy vehicle column carrying soldiers was destroyed on the Dezful-(Malawi) road.

All our planes returned safely to the homeland.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 15 October 1980.

Communique No 81

JN151707 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1652 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Communique No 81 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 15 October 1980]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

This afternoon, our valiant forces chased the enemy in its operational sectors, destroying its pockets and inflicting heavy losses in both life and equipment.

I. The ground forces:

A. The enemy losses in personnel: 106 killed and a large number captured.

B. The enemy losses in equipment: 27 tanks, 14 personnel carriers, 8 missile launchers, 1 vehicle and 1 gun were destroyed. One helicopter was shot down in the southern sector of operations.

C. A large quantity of light weapons and ammunition was seized.

D. Our losses in personnel: 6 martyred and 18 wounded. Our losses in equipment: One tank was destroyed.

II. The air forces:

At 0930 the enemy planes raided Al-Musharrah in Al-'Amarah, aiming at the civilian suburbs. Our ground fire intercepted them and downed one plane. No losses occurred on our side.

III. The naval force:

This morning our naval vessels sank two enemy vessels at the head [ra's] of the Arab Gulf.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 15 October 1980.

Communique No 82

JN161120 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1058 GMT 16 Oct 80

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Oct (INA)--Our armed forces have dealt fatal blows to the Iranian enemy, inflicting great losses in life and equipment on it and downing four aircraft, three of which were helicopters.

This was announced in Communique No 82 by the Armed Forces General Command.

The following is the text of the communique:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Our units' morale is heightened after every victory and their drive and enthusiasm are intensified after every blow dealt to the racist enemy, whose remnants are collapsing day after day.

The results of yesterday's and today's battles are as follows:

I. The ground forces:

A. The enemy losses:

1. In personnel: 203 killed and 20 captured.
2. In equipment: 66 tanks and 15 personnel carriers were destroyed.
3. Two aircraft, one of which was a helicopter, were shot down.

B. Our losses:

1. In personnel: 15 martyred, 21 wounded.
2. In equipment: Two tanks and one mortar were destroyed.

II. The air force:

A. The enemy planes raided residential areas and civilian installations. Our ground defenses intercepted the enemy planes, forcing them to flee as follows:

1. At 0735 enemy planes raided As-Sulaymaniyah, wounding one civilian.
2. At 0910 enemy planes raided Baghdad.
3. At 1115 enemy planes raided Basra.
4. At 1130 three enemy helicopters, supported by fighter planes, attempted to carry out a landing operation north of (Ra's al-Bishah). Our ground defenses and units intercepted them, forcing one helicopter to land, destroying it and capturing its 4-member crew. Two others were shot down over Shatt al-'Arab. One fighter plane was also shot down.

B. Our formations strafed economic and military targets deep inside Iranian territory, inflicting the following grave losses on them:

1. (Janzaryan) Camp near Naqadeh was hit.
2. A camp in Kermanshah was hit.
3. Oil storage tanks in Tehran were hit and set afire.

All our planes returned safely to the homeland.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 16 October 1980.

GROUND FORCES CONTINUE ADVANCE ON ABADAN

Seizure of Transmitters, Junctions

JN151920 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1824 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] Battlefront, 15 Oct (INA)--The Iraqi forces advancing toward Abadan have tightened their control over the roads leading to the city and seized Abadan radio transmitters during their advance today.

Our forces that crossed the Karun River are not in complete control of the road junctions linking Abadan to Ahvaz, Bandar Shahpur [Bandar-e Khomeyni] and Tehran.

The commander of the southern sector of the front said that control of these road junctions is of great strategic importance in cutting off all contacts between Abadan and other

The commander explained that our forces that pushed in the direction of Abadan last night arrested 100 soldiers, including two officers, destroyed a large number of vehicles and inflicted heavy losses in lives and equipment on the enemy.

The INA mission in the southern sector witnessed a dogfight between our aircraft and Iranian enemy aircraft in the Karun River region, when enemy aircraft tried to check the advance of our forces across the river. One enemy Phantom was shot down during this dogfight.

The INA mission also witnessed the advance of our forces toward Abadan, the pounding of enemy positions inside the city and the destruction of the six oil pipelines linking Abadan to Tehran. Thus, Abadan oil, which is distributed to all parts of Iran, has been cut off; the fire of the burning oil is lighting the way for our victorious forces and smoke is hovering over the entire region.

In the meantime, our forces continued to mop up Persian enemy pockets in the city of Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr]. Our special forces are now chasing the defeated renmants.

Our forces have tightened their control over many areas in the city, such as the railroad station and its vicinity, and have occupied several main buildings in the operations carried out today to purge the city.

The INA mission witnessed the failure of one enemy plane's effort to attack our forces. Our ground defenses forced the enemy plane to flee without achieving its objective.

One senior officer in Al-Muhammarah said that our forces are carrying out their plans accurately and are continuing their advance to achieve further victories over the enemy. The officer praised our forces' high morale.

He pointed out that the cities of Al-Muhammarah and Abadan are now under a tight siege from the north, east and west and that the news of victories will come daily with our forces' continued advance and triumph over the Persian enemy.

Regarding military operations in the Dezful region, the INA mission said that fierce battles raged today at the approaches to the city, during which the enemy suffered heavy losses in lives and equipment.

A military source has asserted that our victorious forces destroyed a large number of tanks and M-113 type personnel carriers, as well as a large number of guns, including four self-propelled guns. A large number of enemy personnel were also killed.

The source said that some of the tanks destroyed by our forces were Soviet T-62 tanks, which have not been used previously by the Persian army. The source expressed the belief that the tanks may have been supplied to the racist Persian by its two allies--the Syrian and Libyan regimes.

Delhi Report on Battlefront

BK151244 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Excerpts] Iranian fighter bombers today raided Baghdad for the second day running and Iraqi troops are reported to have launched their final assault on the Iranian oil refining city of Abadan.

The all-India radio West Asia correspondent, reporting from Basra, quotes Iraqi sources as claiming that their forces are now attacking Abadan from both the north and the east. They say their forces are only 3 km from the oil city.

Our correspondent says that from across the Shatt al-'Arab he could hear sounds of intense Iraqi shelling of Abadan. The oil refineries in the city are reported to be burning fiercely. An Iraqi source told our correspondent that Iranian planes have been strafing the advancing Iraqi forces. In the Khorramshahr area, the Iraqis say they have achieved a breakthrough by capturing a strategic bridge in the heart of the city.

UK Correspondent Report

LD151143 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 15 Oct 80 p 5

[Maj Gen Edward Fursdon dispatch: "Front-line view of Abadan afire"]

[Text] In the Iraqi front line at Wasalia on the Shatt Al-'Arab--from an observation post on the west bank of the 600-yard wide Shatt al-'Arab, the vista from left to right of the second biggest oil refinery in the world was of Abadan afire.

Fifty-two tanks of crude, and 100 of oil products have been badly damaged, according to the Iraqi lieutenant-colonel commanding the sector. As our small party watched, yet another one to our front was set alight by Iraqi artillery fire.

The port village of Wasalia, in the date palm groves near the small Iraqi port of Siba, was first shelled, a major said, in early September, before the current war broke out. Certainly the port workers' houses, now sheltering this forward dug-in battallion, bore all the image of front-line dwellings long since abandoned.

The cross-water shooting is now only spasmodic, although it is still wise to sprint when crossing gaps which are in view of the other side.

An American jeep-mounted TOW anti-tank missile, "taken" by Iraqi commandos from an Iranian cargo ship in Khorramshahr, was fired across into yet another oil tank for our benefit.

An Iraqi Army source, reporting yesterday from the Karun bridgehead, said the bridge itself stayed unbroken throughout the day, as considerable armour and mechanised infantry forces moved across. The forward elements of the Salah ad-Din division are now reported to be only three miles from the east side of Abadan.

ISLAMIC ORGANIZATION'S CHATTI ARRIVES IN BAGHDAD

JN160810 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 16 Oct 80

[Text] Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, arrived in Baghdad at dawn today. He was received by Mundhir 'Uraym, foreign ministry under secretary.

GOVERNMENT EMISSARIES END TOURS OF EUROPE, ARAB WORLD

Ramadan Meeting

JN141428 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 Oct 80

[Text] The amir of Qatar, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, received at noon today President Saddam Husayn's envoy, Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister.

The meeting was attended by Iraqi Finance Minister Thamir Razuqi, Qatari Crown Prince and Defense Minister Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani and Qatari Finance and Oil Minister Shaykh 'Abd al-Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani.

Following the meeting, Taha Yasin Ramadan told INA that bilateral relations and the latest developments of the war on the eastern border of the Arab homeland were discussed. He said that, during the meeting, he conveyed the greetings of President Saddam Husayn to his highness the amir of Qatar, who reciprocated his greetings to the Iraqi president and his wishes to him and Iraqi people for victory in the service of the cause of the Arab nation.

Ramadan Return

JN151014 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0940 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 15 Oct (INA)--Taha Yasin Ramadan, Iraqi Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, and his accompanying delegation returned here last night at the end of a tour of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the UAE and Qatar.

Ibrahim Meeting

JN151656 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] Hikmat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council member and President Saddam Husayn's special envoy, met with Veselin Djuranovic, president of the Federal Executive Council.

Hikmat Ibrahim conveyed President Saddam Husayn's regards to Veselin Djuranovic, as well as explaining developments in the current conflict between Iraq and Iran and the background to this conflict, in light of the Persian regime's intransigence and its violation of all agreements and commitments that regulate the two countries' border.

Veselin Djuranovic showed understanding of Iraq's stand, citing the Iraqi Government's flexibility in accepting the principle of cease-fire and negotiations.

Issues dealing with the two friendly states' relations were also discussed.

The meeting was attended by Faruq 'Abd Sa'id, Iraqi ambassador in Belgrade.

Ibrahim Return

JN161004 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 16 Oct 80

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 16 Oct (INA)--President Saddam Husayn's envoy to Cvijetin Mijatovic, president of the SFRY Presidency, returned here today.

Hikmat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council member and the President's envoy, said that he conveyed a message from President Saddam Husayn to Mijatovic, dealing with the development of the situation of the eastern flank of the Arab homeland.

Message to CSSR's Husak

JN151800 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1730 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] Prague, 15 Oct (INA)--Na'im Haddad, President Saddam Husayn's personal envoy and Revolution Command Council member, conveyed a written message from President Saddam Husayn to Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak when they met here this evening.

The meeting was attended by Anwar 'Abd al-Qadir, Iraqi ambassador to Czechoslovakia; Bohuslav Chnoupek, minister of foreign affairs; and (Shalda), chief of the president's office.

IRANIAN AIRCRAFT REPORTEDLY USE SYRIAN AIRBASES

JN151415 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1345 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] Paris, 15 Oct (INA)--The AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI magazine has said that the Syrian authorities have permitted Iranian fighter planes to land at some Syrian bases near the Iraqi borders.

Citing informed sources in the French capital, the magazine said that one of the raids against the city of Mosul in northern Iraq was carried out by Iranian planes that had taken off from one of the Syrian bases.

Talking about secret Syrian-Iranian coordination during the current battles, the magazine said that some of the spare parts required by Iranian planes are arriving in Syria without raising suspicion. The Iranian planes are arriving in some Syrian airbases, where Syrian officers insure the transfer of spare parts and supply these planes with fuel.

BAGHDAD ATH-THAWRAH COMMENTARY RIDICULES AL-QADHDHAFI

JN111032 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0845 GMT 11 Oct 80

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 11 Oct (INA)--The newspaper ATH-THAWRAH says: We were not taken aback by Al-Qadhdhafi's animosity toward Iraq and the Iraqi revolution and party, as this is one of the main tasks of Al-Qadhdhafi's jamahiriyah. However, the treacherous and ignoble stabbing in the back of the Iraqi people and army has gone beyond all expectations and exceeds the surprises for which the tyrant of the Libyan people is notorious.

In a commentary today, ATH-THAWRAH wonders: Has insolence reached such a stage? Has disregard for values and principles reached such a level? Before we answer these questions, listen to what the Libyan ruler has said. He said: Islamic duty dictates fighting alongside the Muslims in Iran. The paper wonders again: Against whom? Are the Iraqis idolaters, O colonel? ATH-THAWRAH asserts that nobody can understand or analyze Al-Qadhdhafi's stands, describing these stands as a real circus.

ATH-THAWRAH adds: Al-Qadhdhafi has finally found his twin in Hafiz al-Asad and proclaimed a union on the telephone: a drowning man seeking help from another drowning man. Al-Qadhdhafi crowned his disgraceful deeds by supporting Khomeyni with arms, equipment and medicines and establishing an airlift to rescue the turbaned shah. With a sore throat, he then began to threaten the Arab Gulf states, not by calling on them to be neutral, for instance, but by demanding that they help the Magian Persian regime.

Concluding its commentary, ATH-THAWRAH says: What more can we say about this creature, who is wrongly regarded as part of the Arab nation? Saddam's Al-Qadisiyah, which has frightened the mighty, is capable of squashing the midgets, who will be mercilessly trampled underfoot by the raging Arab liberation march. Victory will be ours--our people and army--under the banner of Saddam Husayn, the valiant knight and champion of liberation.

BAGHDAD RADIO BERATES KHOMEYNI, AL-QADHDHAFI, AL-ASAD

JN111245 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0950 GMT 11 Oct 80

[Station commentary]

[Text] An Arab saying goes: Birds of a feather flock together. Indeed, Khomeyni, Hafiz al-Asad and Al-Qadhdhafi are birds of a feather. The three of them are characterized by the same traits: abject stupidity, rash irresponsibility and animosity to Arabs and everything that is Arab or smacks of Arabism.

Khomeyni is an old man. He is so senile that his brain cells are no longer able to distinguish between good and bad, goodness and evil, injustice and justice and between the flock and the herd. His senility has driven the Iranian peoples and the country to internecine fighting, destruction and ruination. To Khomeyni, singing and music are taboo; imported meat and poultry are taboo; television and the camera are taboo; education and schools are taboo. To Khomeyni everything is banned. The man is senile. He cannot distinguish between victory and defeat. The retreat of his defeated forces and the capture of hundreds of Magian soldiers is victory; the pounding of Iranian towns with Iraqi artillery is victory. He is a senile old man, so please excuse him.

Al-Qadhdhafi is a perplexed paranoid who does not know how to slake his whims. He wants to be something of importance but does not know how. Didn't he send Libyan officers and soldiers to fight in Uganda, which was a scandal? None returned. Isn't he the patent holder of federal or confederal unions: once with Egypt, once with Syria, once with Algeria, once with Sudan, once with Malta, and once again--perhaps not the last--with Syria? He thinks he is a prophet. He is stupid like his colleague Khomeyni, who has claimed the gift of prophecy. God keep us away from some of the evil he has created.

Al-Qadhdhafi thinks he is the prophet of pan-Arabism after despairing of the Arab masses. He shook himself to stab Arabism in the back and mount the horse of Islam, like Khomeyni before him. Al-Qadhdhafi is justified in antagonizing Iraq and its victorious revolution. He, like his Khomeyni masters, is afraid of Iraq as a political, economic and military power. He is stupid. He thought the people would believe him, that he was resurrected as a prophet. However, he is no more than a modern Musaylimah [early Islamic rival of Muhammad who claimed that he, and not Muhammad, was God's prophet].

Hafiz al-Asad is a cunning fox but a stupid one. He is a fox who is deceiving Al-Qadhdhafi until he empties his pockets. He too is afraid of Iraq. Didn't he himself say that Iraq poses a danger that is more serious than Israel?

The stupid troika have formed an alliance in which there is nothing to fear. Usually, stupid people fall in the first pit they dig.

LIBYA

COMMUNIQUE OF ALL-ARAB PEOPLE'S CONGRESS ON IRAN-IRAQ WAR

LD121348 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0900 GMT 12 Oct 80

[Text] Tripoli, 12 Oct (JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY)--The standing secretariat of the All-Arab People's Conference issued a communique after a meeting of the delegates council which ended Tuesday in Tripoli. Here is the text of the communique;

In the context of the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary scheme, the shah of Iran played the role assigned him as U.S. gendarme, and established the closest ties with the Zionist enemy, so that, when the Iranian peoples, under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni, triumphed and the Islamic Iranian revolution destroyed one of the strongest entities representing an agent reactionary dictatorship in the region, the Arab nation considered this victory not only a victory for Iran but a victory for all the peoples of the area. In fact, the first decision of the Iranian revolution was to break off diplomatic relations with the Zionist enemy and to embrace the Palestinian revolution. It also broke off relations with the Sadatist regime.

Hence, assessment of Arab-Iranian relations must take into consideration the supreme Arab interests, and must be put on the map of international Arab relations, and nobody can monopolize such an assessment or unilaterally try to remedy the situation, all the more because the Iranian revolution is only 1 and 1/2 years old and can in no way be made accountable for the errors of the former Shah regime against the Arab nation, nor can it be blamed for the retreat of Arab officials before the shah of Iran.

At any rate, and with due regard to all the Arab national rights, the settlement of any dispute with the Iranian revolution should have come through dialogue and arbitration, and in no circumstances can a recourse to war take place at a time when the Arab nation is preoccupied with its confrontation with the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary plan, and when the Palestinian question is the core of the Arab struggle between the Arab nation and its allies--foremost of whom is the Iranian revolution--and the enemies led by imperialism and Zionism.

Furthermore, if we take into consideration the fact that the Arab regimes had retreated before the shah of Iran when he occupied the Gulf islands in 1971, how can one believe the claim that the same regimes are today waging a nationalist liberation war against the Iranian revolution? We consider that using the pretext of problems dating back to the shah era and official agreements concluded with him, and denounced at that time by the (Arab) nationalist progressive forces, does not justify today a recourse to war against the Islamic revolution, an ally of the Arab nation.

Therefore, the standing secretariat of the All-Arab People's Conference condemns the war now being waged between Iraq and Iran, and considers that this war serves only the interests of imperialism, Zionism and reaction, and that in no way can war be the means of dealing with our allies, whatever differences may exist between us.

At a time when Israel occupies all of Palestine and parts of Egypt, Syria and Lebanon, in the midst of an imperialist and international conspiracy and Arab surrender; at a time when the Sadatist regime and Arab reaction are covering up this crime, the Arab nation badly needs the potential of the Iraqi people, particularly their Arab armed forces, in order to wage the war of liberation, dignity and honor in Palestine where the army of the Iranian Islamic revolution will be its ally, fighting with it against our common enemies imperialism and Zionism. Consequently, the declaration of war (against Iran), and its continued destructive effects, serves only the interests of imperialism, Zionism and reaction.

There should therefore be--as a matter of urgency--recourse to reason, and all measures must be taken to stop bloodshed, heal the rift, and preserve the common interests of the peoples of the region. Arab and Islamic leaders must assume their responsibilities and intervene to remedy the situation in a way that preserves Arab rights and strengthens the Islamic Revolution in Iran and its progressive role. The capabilities of two allied peoples, who are the same target of a common enemy, are being destroyed while the world watches, because these losses adversely affect Arabs and Muslims alike, and the only beneficiary will be imperialism, Zionism and reaction. Can one remain silent over this situation, whatever the considerations may be?

We call on the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, the Arab League and the Islamic Conference to undertake a courageous and decisive initiative to halt the aggression, heal the wounds of war and enable the two fraternal peoples to overcome this trial. And here (?arbitrator) is what God said: If two groups of believers come to fight each other, make peace between them; but if one of them turns into a tyrant toward the other then fight the tyrant until it reverts to the commandments of God. [Koran quotation]

MOROCCO

SPANISH FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH BOUCETTA, KING

LD141422 Rabat MAP in English 1232 GMT 14 Oct 80

[Excerpts] Rabat, Oct 14 (MAP)--Mr. Maata Bouabid, Moroccan premier and minister of justice, received here Monday Mr Jose Pedro Perez Llorca, Spanish foreign minister, who is on an official visit to Morocco at the invitation of his Moroccan counterpart, Mr M'hamed Boucetta. During the meeting Mr Bouabid and Mr Llorca evoked the ties of friendship and brotherhood existing between Morocco and Spain and examined means of strengthening bilateral relations. Earlier Mr Llorca and Mr Boucetta had held a meeting devoted to examining cooperation relations between the two countries.

The meeting was followed by a work session that was attended on the Moroccan side by Mr Abdelhak Tazi, secretary of state for cooperation, Mr Maati Jorio, Morocco's ambassador to Madrid, and the head of the department Europe-America at the Foreign Affairs Ministry; and on the Spanish side by the director general of the department Africa at the Spanish Foreign Ministry, the director of the bureau of diplomatic information, the assistant director of this bureau and Spain's ambassador to Rabat, Mr Alfonso de la Serna. In the evening Mr Boucetta offered a dinner in the honour of the Spanish foreign affairs minister.

Departure Press Conference

LD142106 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 14 Oct 80

[Excerpts] The Spanish foreign minister, Jose Pedro Perez Llorca, has concluded his official visit to Morocco and has left Rabat for Madrid. At noon today the Spanish minister was received by the king at the royal palace in Ifran. Before his departure the Spanish minister held a press conference at Sale [Rabat] airport in which he expressed satisfaction with the audience granted to him by his majesty the king, pointing out that the conversation with the king was extremely cordial.

Asked about cooperation between the two countries in sea fishing, Jose Llorca explained that they should be regulated in accordance with modern requirements. As to the question of the seizure of hostages, the Spanish minister stressed that the attitude of the Spanish Government is very clear. He condemned every seizure of hostages since this is in violation of human rights and international law. Ilorca also condemned the detention of the Spanish hostages by the gangs of mercenaries.

LEADERS ARRIVE IN LOME FOR MEETING ON CHAD

AB160833 Lome Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Text] OAU Secretary General Edem Kodjo arrived today in Lome. Shortly after his arrival, he was received by the founding president of the RPT [Rally of the Togolese People] and president of the republic, Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema. The audience took place at the State House.

After his talks with the master and guide of new Togo, Edem Kodjo indicated that his visit to Lome is within the framework of President Eyadema's efforts to restore peace in Chad. The OAU secretary general recalled that at the last OAU economic summit in Lagos Togo was chosen as one of the countries in charge of negotiating a cease-fire in Chad and subsequently restoring peace in this country.

Mr Kodjo added that since then the Togolese president has made great efforts to convene this meeting. It is at this essential meeting that the OAU will be able to restore peace and security in Chad, he said. He pointed out that the presence of President Siaka Stevens was a sign that the OAU was very interested in the success of the Lome meeting and highly appreciated the efforts being made by President Eyadema to put an end to the war in Chad and establish national unity as an indispensable condition for the consistent development of the economy.

Edem Kodjo is accompanied by the OAU deputy secretary general,Peter Onu.

Goukouni, Congo Delegate

AB160736 Lome Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Excerpt] The president of the ruling Transitional National Union Government in Chad arrived in Lome this afternoon. He was greeted on arrival at the airport by the head of state, Gen Gnassingbe Eyadema. President Eyadema and his guest shook hands with the dignitaries present at the airport. After the routine reception at the VIP lounge, the two heads of state went to the 2 February Hotel where the Chadian president will be staying. After this reception, President Eyadema held talks with Oueddei Goukouni.

The national helmsman also held discussions with the Congolese delegate, Francois Xavier Katali, member of the Political Bureau of the Congolese Labor Party and interior minister. The visiting Congolese minister is representing his head of state, President Denis Sassou-N'guesso.

Hissein Habre Representatives

AB151745 Paris AFP in French 1638 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Excerpt] Lome 15 Oct (AFP)--A delegation of the Chadian Northern Armed Forces (FAN), led by Mahamat Saleh, member of the FAN Command Council, arrived in Lome this afternoon.

It is not yet known in Lome if Hissein Habre, head of FAN, will personally come to the Togolese capital.

MALIAN PRESIDENT ADDRESSES DONORS MEETING IN ROME

AB152038 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 15 Oct 80

[Excerpt] The current president of the CILSS [Interstate Committee to Fight the Drought in the Sahel], Gen Moussa Traore, who arrived yesterday afternoon in Rome, was received this morning at the headquarters of the FAO by the director general of the International Food Fund, Edouard Saouma.

[Begin Saouma recording] Your excellency, we must give timely consideration to the true human dimension of the drama that is threatening the Sahel countries. The figures are known, but they are impersonal. In fact, what the statistics cover are a million men, women and children who are daily and unjustly suffering, yet the material means for helping them exist, and we will not have any excuse for saying that we were unaware of the facts.

Faced with the very serious situation in Africa and particularly in the Sahel region, I and the executive director of the World Food Program convened a meeting on 19 September of the donor countries in order to stimulate the action of the international community and to better coordinate it. All admitted that increased aid was necessary, and several donors announced that their respective governments were going to reevaluate their food aid programs and give increase priority to the needs of Africa.

Your presence here this morning reminds us at a very opportune moment of the extreme urgency of the decisions to be taken, because as we all agree that the Sahel countries need more food aid immediately in order to overcome the present crisis, on a longer term basis they must be able to count on a sustained assistance to accelerate the rate of their agricultural production. [end recording]

That was the welcome given by FAO Director General Edouard Saoumah to General Traore. The donors meeting also acclaimed the presence of Gen Moussa Traore, the current president of the CILSS.

[Begin Traore recording] Ladies and gentlemen, my first words are to draw your attention to the extreme seriousness of this situation. The emergency needs of the Sahel region for food aid will be very high. It will be necessary, beginning this month, to proceed with an initial evaluation so that the first aid can be dispatched as early as possible. It will also be necessary to speed up the dispatch of aid already promised to this region but which has not yet been received. It is only in this way that the worst can be avoided for these sorely tried people, who, having already been severely affected by the drought of 1979, see their harvests again threatened by the very same calamity. It is precisely because we are confronted with this sad reality that we were (?worried) recently by the weakness of response of the international community to our various appeals. For the past 3 years we have been witnessing a continual decline in the proportion of our food aid needs being supplied.

Mr President, ladies and gentlemen, food aid is, I affirm, only a palliative. We therefore have to look elsewhere for the real remedies to the evils from which the Sahel is suffering in food matters. We think that a first important step in this direction is to establish some kind of food security; but the radical solution lies in the achievement of production activities to ensure self-sufficiency in food. As the FAO has stressed, food problems are universal, and more than anything else they are the problem of people of the whole world. Thus, a sustained and [word indistinct] action taken daily and as the years pass, in every country and at the international level, will eliminate hunger. May the first international food day, which we are preparing to celebrate on 16 October 1981, enable us to achieve a more militant solidarity in the struggle against hunger, malnutrition and misery. This is, in any case, the ardent wish of the populations of the Sahel, and it is the wish which I have come to deliver to this meeting, with the strong conviction that together we will be able to give each other a helping hand to ensure survival. [applause]

ETHIOPIA

ERITREAN FRONT RADIO: MILITIAMEN ARREST COMMANDERS

LD122050 (Clandestine) Voice of Broad Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 1600 GMT 12 Oct 80 EA

[Text] Inasmuch as the fascist Derg is creating a wide gap in the treatment of its so-called militia as opposed to the regular forces, using the divide-and-rule policy of Haile Selassie, the members of the militia are not just voicing their grievances over the partiality shown by the fascist Derg but have also started arresting their commanders in protest.

Accordingly, members of the militia stationed in southern Eritrea in the towns of Adi Hawesha, Tselot, [name indistinct] and Adi Keshi have arrested their commanders in protest at the partiality shown by the Derg and asked for certain demands to be met. The demands forwarded by members of the militia in these towns, who belong to the 71st brigade, include:

1. Equality of pay with regulars;

2. The granting of annual leave, as in the regular forces, to enable them to visit their families. Initially, they were told they were only to serve for 3 or 4 months, but now have been serving for 4 years, during which time they have not been able to see their families;

3. The suspension by the Derg of recruiting militia members from among the members of the public by employing deceitful tactics and force, since the Derg has not honored the promise it made to take care of the families of militia members who have been recruited to serve in the forces. The members of the militia who are stationed in Adi Hawesha have disclosed that they will not release their commander, who is under arrest, until their demands are met.

KENYA

MOI WARNS OF POSSIBLE CURB ON NONESSENTIAL IMPORTS

LD151834 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 15 Oct 80 EA

[Excerpt] His Excellency President Daniel Arap Moi said today that it may be necessary to take selective measures to stop the importation of nonessential goods in order to stabilize the economy and curb inflation. Most likely to be affected by the importation curb would be textiles, high capacity cars and other luxury goods.

President Moi was speaking at State House, Nairobi, during the presentation of a 466 million shillings check by the governor of the Central Bank of Kenya, Mr Duncan Ndegwa. The sum represents the bank's profit for the year 1979-1980. Mr Ndegwa further presented a check for 100,000 shillings in aid of the physically disabled. President Moi later presented the two checks to the permanent secretary in the treasury and to the minister for constitutional and home affairs in his capacity as chairman of the fund for disabled.

The president assured Kenyans that the country's rate of inflation was far below the average of most countries in the world. President Moi, however, expressed concern that during the first 8 months of this year the country's official reserves had fallen by over 1,000 million shillings and he attributed the fall to the payments that Kenya made in buying essential imports like oil, grain and capital goods, as well as meeting debt obligations. As a mature people, he said, we must readjust to the new situation in order to allow continuity in the investment field, adding that the government hoped to reduce inflation to a target below the current 10 percent.

MUGABE SAYS USSR HAS NOT REPLIED TO EMBASSY OFFER

LD151050 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 14 Oct 80 CA

[Text] The prime minister of Zimbabwe, Mr Robert Mugabe, announced today that he had invited the Soviet Union to open an embassy in Salsibury. At a press conference Mr Mugabe, however, said the Soviet Union has not replied to his offer. Previously Mr Mugabe's ZANU-PF party had harbored deep suspicions about the Kremlin's motives in Africa. The Soviet Union refused to support Mr Mugabe's freedom fighters during the liberation war. The Soviet Union instead supported the freedom fighters of Mr Joshua Nkomo, who is now home affairs minister. Mr Nkomo is said to have been putting pressure on Mr Mugabe to establish relations with the Soviet Union.

MUGABE REPORTS ON VISIT TO DPRK FOR ANNIVERSARY

LD151046 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 14 Oct 80 CA

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, arrived in Salsibury this morning, marking the end of his official state visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. At an airport news conference after his arrival, Comrade Mugabe told newsmen that his visit was at the invitation of the Korean leader, Comrade Kim Il-song, to attend the sixth congress of the country's communist party. He said the occasion also marked the 35th anniversary of the founding of the Korean Communist Party. The prime minister said the visit was also aimed at strengthening the solidarity which was forged between the two countries during the struggle for Zimbabwe's independence. He said the congress was attended by the president of the republic of Guinea, Comrade Sekou Toure, as well as delegates from Zambia, Mozambique and Angola and other countries.

The prime minister said that a historic document covering the past 10 years was read at the opening session of the congress by Comrade Kim Il-song. Comrade Mugabe added that he will personally recommend the document for detailed study by government ministers as well as the central committees of ZAPU-PF and ZANU-PF to help them realize how the developmental process has unfolded in Korea. During his stay, Comrade Mugabe visited a number of places, including a gigantic steelworks factory and the port city of Nampo.

On the situation in Zimbabwe, Comrade Mugabe said Korean leaders pledged their open support and expressed admiration for the manner in which Zimbabwe has proceeded to consolidate its hard-won peace and independence and its resettlement and rehabilitation programs. The prime minister said Comrade Kim Il-song also expressed the need for Zimbabwe to take into account all the forces in the country which are committed to the principle of national independence.

He said Koreans are at the moment concerned about the reunification of the two Koreas. Comrade Mugabe added that the Korean leader has put forward proposals calling for a confederation of the two states, but with their own systems of government. Comrade Mugabe said the Korean leader, however, stressed that the Korean problem should be left to Koreans and that any solution should be arrived at through peaceful means.

On his return, the prime minister stopped over in the Chinese capital of Beijing, where he held talks with the country's new prime minister, Comrade Zhao Ziyang, and the chairman of the Chinese Communist Party, Comrade Hua Guofeng.